

February 5, 1963

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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QUESTION: Are Soviet submarines based in Cuba?

FACTS: There is no evidence of any Soviet submarine based in Cuba.

QUESTION: What can be said about charge by Rep. Bruce that 32 to 38 offensive missiles were sent to Cuba by Russia, instead of 42, and that 40 or more of these missiles are still in Cuba?

FACTS: This statement attributed to Rep. Bruce, to the effect that the United States has been informed by friendly governments that the total number of Soviet missiles shipped to Cuba was 32 to 38, is incorrect. No friendly government has so informed the United States.

There remains no credible evidence that there are offensive Soviet weapons in Cuba. If Mr. Bruce has credible evidence to support his statement, the Department of Defense would like to receive it.

QUESTION - Can you tell us anything about the character of the military build-up in Cuba?

FACTS - See text of statement by Secretary McNamara before the House Armed Services Committee on January 30, 1961, particularly last four paragraphs.